

**PETITION FOR REVIVAL OF AN APPLICATION FOR PATENT
ABANDONED UNAVOIDABLY UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.137(a)**

Docket No. Q68048

First named inventor: Kimihiro ABE

Group Art Unit: 2833

Application Number: 10/043,110

Examiner: Gary F. Paumen

Filed: January 15, 2002

Title: CONNECTOR

Attention: Office of Petitions

MAIL STOP PETITION

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

The above-identified application became abandoned for failure to file a timely and proper reply to a notice or action by the United States Patent and Trademark Office. The date of abandonment is the day after the expiration date of the period set for reply in the Office notice or action plus any extensions of time actually obtained.

APPLICANT HEREBY PETITIONS FOR REVIVAL OF THIS APPLICATION

NOTE: A grantable petition requires the following items:

1. Petition fee
 - ☐ Small entity - fee \$_____ (37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i)). Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 C.F.R. § 1.27.
 - ☒ Other than small entity - fee \$500.00 (37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i)).
2. Reply and/or fee
 - A. The reply and/or fee to the above-noted Office action in the form of _____ (identify type of reply):
 - ☐ has been filed previously on _____.
 - ☒ is enclosed herewith. A Copy of the Amendment filed on September 12, 2006, along with the date-stamped filing receipt is enclosed.
 - B. The issue fee of \$_____.
 - ☐ has been paid previously on _____.
 - ☐ is enclosed herewith.
3. Terminal disclaimer with disclaimer fee
 - ☐ Since this utility/plant application was filed on or after June 8, 1995, no terminal disclaimer is required.
 - ☐ A terminal disclaimer (and disclaimer fee (37 C.F.R. § 1.20(d)) of \$_____ for a small entity or \$_____ for other than a small entity) disclaiming the required period of time is enclosed herewith (see PTO/SB/63).
4. An adequate showing of the cause of the delay, and that the entire delay in filing the required reply from the due date for the reply until the filing of a grantable petition under 37 C.F.R. § 1.137(a) was unavoidable, is enclosed.

Date July 26, 2006

Signature

Telephone (202) 293-7060

Brian W. Hannon

Typed or printed name

Reg. No. 32,778

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC
WASHINGTON OFFICE

23373

CUSTOMER NUMBER

- Enclosures: ☐ Fee(s) Payment
☐ Reply
☐ Terminal Disclaimer
☒ Additional sheets containing statements establishing unavoidable delay
☐ _____

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NOTE: The following showing of the cause of unavoidable delay must be signed by all applicants or by any other party who is presenting statements concerning the cause of delay.

July 26, 2006
Date

Signature

Brian W. Hannon
Typed or printed name

32,778
Reg. No. (if signed
by attorney of record)

(In the space provided below, please explain in detail the reasons for the delay in filing a proper reply)

On July 21, 2006, in response to non-receipt of a further Office Action or Notice of Allowance, and on behalf of Applicant, the undersigned searched on "Private Pair" to ascertain the status of the above-identified application. Upon reviewing "Private Pair", the undersigned noted that as of January 21, 2004, the application was indicated as abandoned for failure to respond to an Office Action, dated June 12, 2003. However, the undersigned attorney, never received a Notice of Abandonment, nor was there any indication in the "Private Pair" system that a Notice was ever mailed.

The abandonment of the application was improper because Applicants timely filed a response to the June 12, 2003 Office Action on the three-month due date of September 12, 2003. Copies of the Office Action, Amendment and date-stamped filing receipt are attached for the Examiner's convenience. According to "Private Pair", the application was marked "lost" on November 2, 2003. Furthermore, the file was located on March 12, 2003, three (3) months after the filing of the Amendment in the U.S. Patent Office. Thus, it is clear that the PTO failed to properly docket the response.

The undersigned respectfully submits that as demonstrated by the attached copy, an Amendment was timely filed on September 12, 2003. Accordingly, the undersigned respectfully requests that the application be withdrawn from abandonment and prosecution on the merits be continued.

In the event that the Examiner believes that any fees are due with respect to this paper, the undersigned authorizes that they be charged to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. A duplicate copy of this paper is attached herewith. However, since the abandonment of the application was improper, it is submitted that no fees should be charged to revive the application.

(Please attach additional sheets if additional space is necessary)

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